

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11 AID-05 ORM-02 DHA-02 /095 W

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R 031427Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7999

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

\$/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 283

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASS SANA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR ET SO TFAI

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN MEDIA COVERAGE OF TFAI

1. ETHIOPIA HERALD OF FEBRUARY 1 CARRIES FRONT PAGE ARTICLE HEADLINED "ALI AREF HOPES AFRICAN HEADS WILL MAKE SOMALIA CHANGE ATTITUDE." ARTICLE REPORTS VISIT HERE BE MIN OF TRANSPORT, PUBLIC WORKS AND TOURISM, MOHAMED DJAMA ELABE, ON WAY HOME FROM LOURENCO MARQUES ALC MEETING. DJAMA, ACCORDING TO PRESS, STATED THAT SOMALI OBJECTIONS TO PARTICIPATION OF DJIBOUTI GOVT IN ALC MEETING WAS IN VIOLATION OF OAU CHARTER AND HE HOPES THAT AFRICAN LEADERS WILL PERSUADE SOMALIA TO CHANGE HER NEGATIVE, OBSTRUCTIONIST ATTITUDE TOWARD TFAI INDEPENDENCE.

2. DJAMA, WHO IS ALSO SEC GEN IN CHARGE OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS OF NATIONAL UNION FOR INDEPENDENCE (UNI-
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GOVERNING PARTY), STATED THAT DJIBOUTI HAS NO ANTAGONISM

TOWARD SOMALI PEOPLE WHO ARE BROTHERS OF THE DJIBOUTI PEOPLE. THE SOMALI GOVT, HOWEVER, WAS CREATING DIFFICULTIES FOR DJIBOUTI IN ITS QUEST FOR INDEPENDENCE. THE OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE'S RECOGNITION OF ALI AREF'S GOVT AND ITS DECISION TO INVITE DELEGATION TO LOURENCO MARQUES WAS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION SINCE " THE GOVT OF ALI AREF REPRESENTED THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY." (COMPARE WITH OTHER REPORTS, SEPTELS, ON UNI REPS FORTUNES AT LOURENCO MARQUES.)

3. DJAMA, WHO LEFT FEB 2, WAS ACCOMPANIED BY SHEHEM DAVID CHEHEM, MINHEALTH AND SECGEN FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS OF NATIONAL UNION FOR INDEPENDENCE, AND MR. ABDILLIAHI A. GOD, A DEPUTY IN THE TERRITORIAL ASSEMBLY.

4. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, DELEGATION HELD TALKS WITH ETHIOPIAN FONMIN, AFRICAN DIPLOMATS AND WITH OAU SECGEN ETEKI.

5. DJAMA, PRESS REPORTS, TOLD ETEKI THAT HIS PARTY WANTED INDEPENDENCE FIRST AND THEN WOULD DECIDE POLITICAL SYSTEM ON BASIS OF PEOPLE'S WISHES. ON UNGA TFAI RESOLUTION, WHICH MENTIONED REFUGEES, DJAMA CONTENDED THERE WAS NO PROBLEM WITH REFUGEES AND THAT THE TWO LIBERATION FRONTS BASED IN SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA "WOULD RETURN" AFTER INDEPENDENCE. IN Q & A SESSION, DJAMA CONTENDED THAT TFAI OPPOSITION LEADER HASSAN GOULED HAD RESPONDED TO INVITATION TO DISCUSS JOINT APPROACH TO INDEPENDENCE BY HAVING OPPOSITION ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE PM.

6. ON DIFFERENCE SUBJECT, FEB 3 ETHIOPIAN HERALD REPORTS THAT FRENCH TROOPS AND POLICE HAVE SEALED OFF DJIBOUTI AND THAT NO ONE ALLOWED IN OR OUT OF THE CITY. SECURITY FORCES ARE CHECKING THE IDENTITY OF PEOPLE LIVING IN THE SHANTY TOWN OF BALBALA AND THOSE WITHOUT VALID RESIDENCE PERMITS WILL BE SENT BACK TO THEIR TOWNS OR EXPELLED FROM THE TERRITORY. ARTICLE NOTED THAT CLAMP-DOWN CAME TWO WEEKS AFTER OFFICIALS HAD BROKEN UP A TERRORIST NETWORK WHICH TFAI PRIME MINISTER ALI AREF CHARGED WAS AIDED BY HIS GOVERNMENT'S MAIN OPPOSITION, THE AFRICAN PEOPLE'S INDEPENDENCE LEAGUE (PLAI) AND SOMALIA.

7. DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT.
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HUMMEL

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